



# Transit Strategic Partnerships Program

NCTCOG Public Meeting | June 12, 2023



# BACKGROUND: ROLES OF THE ORGANIZATION

## North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

- Assist local governments in planning for common needs and cooperating for mutual benefit in a 16-county region
- Executive Board approves the receipt of Federal transit funding for the region

## Transportation Department = Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

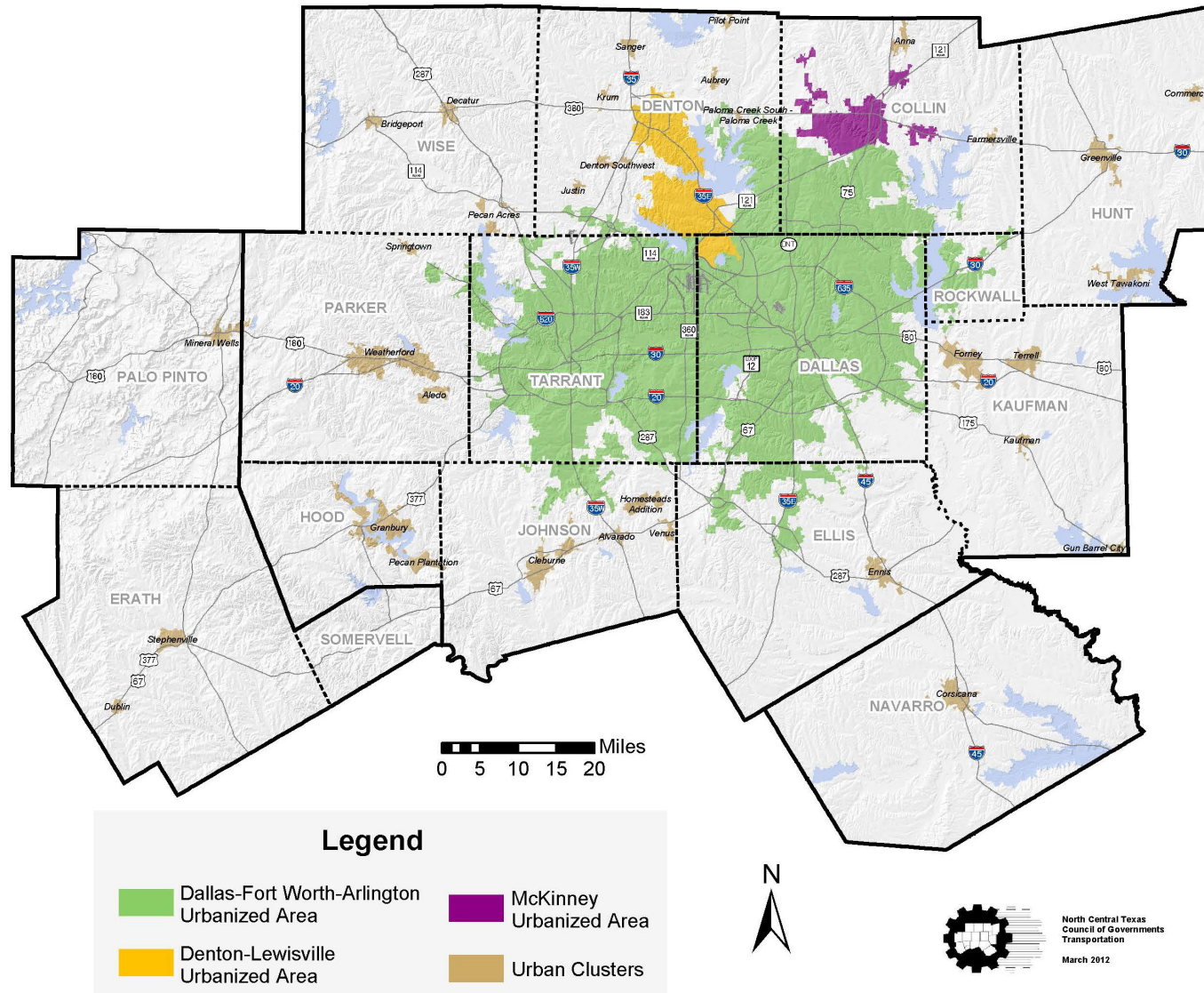
- Regional Transportation Council (RTC) sets transportation policy
- Programs all federal funding in the region with the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Coordinated transportation planning in a 16-county region – Access North Texas Plan

## Designated Recipient of Federal Transit Funding

- Suballocate/distribute federal funds to transit authorities and small transit providers
- Manage drawdown of federal funds
- Urbanized Area in 8 counties – Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Parker, Rockwall, & Tarrant

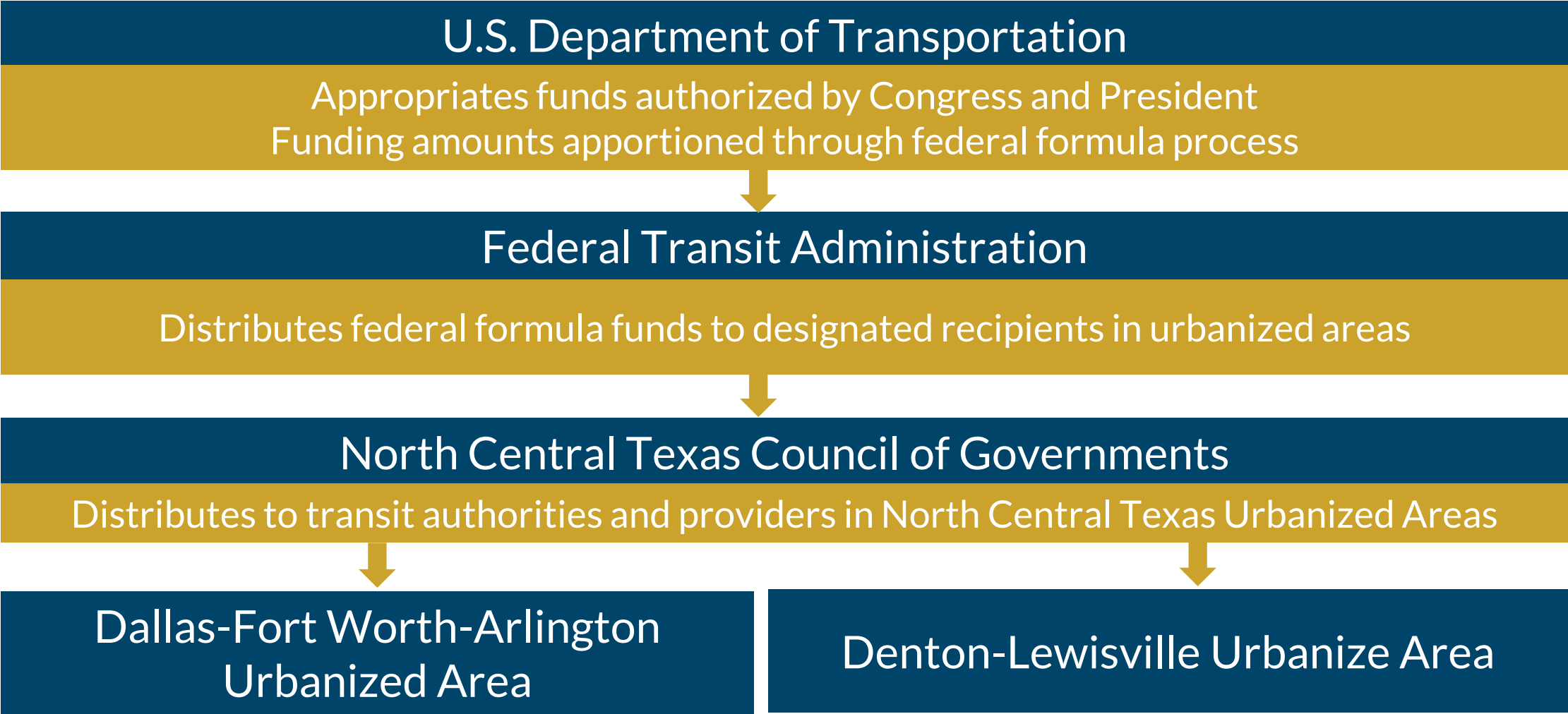


# U.S. Census Bureau Urbanized Areas and Urban Clusters (2010)





# APPROPRIATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS



# FEDERAL FORMULA FUNDING PROGRAMS FOR TRANSIT (URBAN)

Section	Program	Purpose	Project Types
5307	Urbanized Area Formula (includes Job Access/Reverse Commute projects)	Serve general public including low-income populations	Capital Operating Planning
5310	Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities	Serve needs of the elderly and individuals with disabilities	Capital Operating



# DISTRIBUTING FEDERAL TRANSIT FUNDS IN NORTH TEXAS

Public transportation providers in the region were apportioned ~\$136M in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307/5310 formula funds through the Fiscal Year 2021 apportionment cycle

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## Two processes are used to distribute these transit funds

### Non-competitive (formula)

~98% available annually to transit providers through Program of Projects (POP) process

### Competitive

~2%, per RTC policy, set aside for transit projects that support Mobility 2045 goals and address needs outlined in Access North Texas

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# TRANSIT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Competitive funding program to support transit project ideas and implement services that address Mobility 2045 goals and Access North Texas

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**Eligible applicants** Transit authorities  
Rural providers  
Non-profits (encourage partnership with an existing transit provider)

**Eligibility** Must be an entity that can receive federal funds

**Project Length** Typically a 2-3 year pilot

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**Project elements**

Cannot be used for operating shortfalls

Service must be within the UZA

Encourage partnerships and collaboration between non-service providers (non-profits) and transit providers

Address innovation, Access North Texas, recent transit study recommendations, accessibility, environmental justice, transit dependent populations, risk

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<https://www.nctcog.org/strategicpartnerships-transit>



# TRANSIT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM: EVALUATION CRITERIA

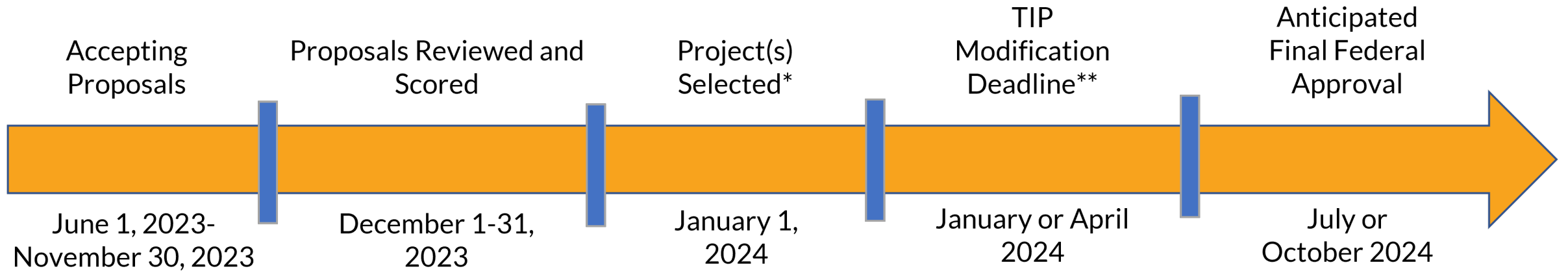
CATEGORY	POSSIBLE POINTS
<b>Needs Assessment</b> Address Access North Texas, Transit Studies, Transit Dependent Populations, Environmental Justice, and/or Accessibility. Is it non-duplicative?	60
<b>Strategic Value and Innovation</b> Is it an innovative project that serves an immediate need? Could it serve as a model to other areas?	15
<b>Project Funding and Sustainability</b> Are budget assumptions sound and reasonable? Meet minimum funding requirements? Local match identified? Project Sustainability?	15
<b>Implementation Capacity and Collaboration</b> Include coordination with stakeholders and existing providers? Does the agency have the required capacity to implement?	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>





# TRANSIT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM FUNDING CYCLE

Ideas accepted on a rolling basis, but evaluated twice a year



\* Projects may get shifted to next cycle if more development is needed

\*\* Selected projects may be submitted to either of the two TIP deadlines within the cycle. TIP deadlines are subject to change.

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# CONTACT INFORMATION



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